

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

This response is made to the most recent rejection dated April 29, 2010, and a subsequent conversation with Examiner Bui, which conversation was greatly appreciated by Applicants' attorney. Claims 20-37 remain pending in this application. In this conversation, the Examiner confirmed that the present action is NON-FINAL, and applicants have treated it as such. Such status is a logical conclusion as well, as Applicants have had no opportunity after filing of the RCE to respond to any Office Action prior to this response.

Claims 20-29 were again rejected under 35 USC § 102(c) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 USC § 103(a) as obvious over Globerman, U.S. 5,776,161. As a preliminary matter, it seems that the rejection is written as if all the claims 20-37 were rejected using Globerman. Applicants have treated this rejection as such. Regarding the rejection itself, once again, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner has oriented the stent in Globerman incorrectly. For instance, the "ring" of Figures 14-15 is *neither* a "cylindrical ring" nor a "cylindrical spring," as claimed. It does not lie along the longitudinal axis, but rather lies *orthogonal* to the longitudinal axis. This can best be seen in reviewing Figure 14 of Globerman. As a result, the alleged "connectors" (in Globerman) do not connect "a ring" or "a spring" at any of the end portions of the struts of Globerman. Simply put, in Globerman Figures 14-15, there are NO rings or springs oriented as claimed. As a result, the properly construed embodiment of Globerman does not anticipate or render obvious Claims 20-37. The proper orientation of the Globerman stent was recognized by the Examiner in the Advisory Action of March 1, 2010, but seems to have been ignored in the present action; and the Examiner has reverted to his former (and improper) reading of Globerman.

The claims were also rejected under using an obviousness type double patenting rejection. When there are no further art rejections, Applicants will consider filing a Terminal Disclaimer.

Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper, or if a petition for extension of time is required for timely acceptance of same, the Commissioner is

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hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 10-0750/JJI0049USCON/PAC for any such fees. A two-month extension of time is requested herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

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